

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

A GENUINE SISTER REPUBLIC IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

The Australians Very Anxious for Our Fleet to Visit Them—
People of Our Blood, Who Are Working Out Their Ideals on the
Same Lines—Development of the Island Continent.

Our Antipodes.

The Australians are making a very determined effort to secure a visit from our fleet to their shores, and we sincerely hope that they will succeed. The Australians are our kind of people, and our trade with them is constantly increasing, so that it is a matter of commercial policy, if nothing else, to establish the closest relations with them. They are precisely like our neighbors in Canada, who are among our best customers, and besides are allied to us in blood and similarity of institutions. The nominally a colony of Great Britain, Australia is in all essential purposes a separate and almost independent Nation, its connection with Great Britain being a pure sentimentality. The Australian Commonwealth was organized on exactly the same lines as our own Government, which was taken for the model in everything, and as our institutions and ideas are interpreted by men of our own blood, we can expect a remarkable similarity in the career of the Commonwealth. This is wholly different from Latin America, particularly the Spanish-American countries, which, while translating the American Constitution into Spanish and pretending to imitate us, have built up Governments entirely dissimilar to ours and which have little in common except names and forms. At the time of organizing the Commonwealth of Australia, as it is officially termed, the question was foremost as to what extent the new Government should be connected with the Empire. The British Government gave the Australians the widest latitude, and expressed itself that it would be satisfied with anything that the Australians chose to adopt. It was decided to retain the form of a dependency of Great Britain, and the King is represented there by a Governor-General, who is appointed by him, but must be acceptable to the Australians. He is a mere figurehead, however, as the real Government is in the hands of the Australians, and the Governor-General's approval is a mere matter of routine.

The next question came up as to the Constitution of the Supreme Court, and whether an appeal would lie from it to London. This was debated pro and con by the colonists themselves, with the British Government professing the utmost indifference. On the one side, it was contended that there should be an appeal as a matter of loyalty, sentiment and legal precedent. On the other hand, it was claimed that such an appeal would tend to protract litigation. The matter was finally settled by a compromise allowing certain cases to be appealed to the Privy Council under strict regulations made by Parliament. No appeal may be taken from the decision of the High Court to the British Privy Council on questions involving the constitutional powers of the Commonwealth or of the different States unless the High Court itself cer-

tain that the question is one which ought to be determined by the Sovereign of the Empire. Like our own country, the Commonwealth was formed of different Colonies, and the States rights carefully guarded. It carries somewhat farther the compromise that we made between loose federalism and centralization. This matter of State rights was earnestly debated for years in the different Colonies, with centralization strongly supported by the powerful labor element and States rights by the majority of the rest of the people. The first proposition for a Constitution was defeated by the labor element, because it had too much States rights in it. The question of free trade and protection also entered largely into the discussion, as the people of New South Wales and of the seaports generally were free traders, who wanted no restriction whatever upon commerce.

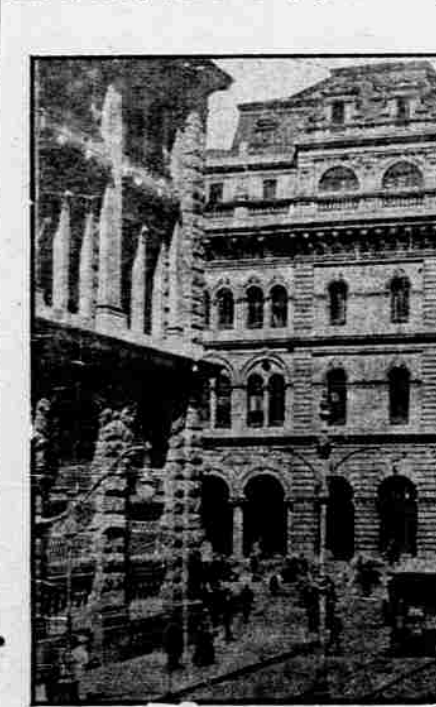
AN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINE.

The people of Australia are mainly English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh. They have the same fundamental political ideas as ours, but are much more radical in many abstract principles. They have worked out their scheme of Government upon the basis of our institutions and the experience gained from their political workings, and constantly the United States Constitution and workings of the Government under it were discussed at all the popular and legislative meetings, and we were taken as a guide in shaping the institutions of the new Commonwealth.

Our Kind of People.

The Senate is composed of six members from each of the six Colonies, now termed States. These are elected for six years. The House of Representatives must consist of double the number of Senators, the no State may have less than five members. These are elected for three years. The Australian Parliament has supreme authority over

every matter connected with the Government except such as are strictly reserved to the several States. In the provisions for this Parliament the Constitution of the United States was closely followed. The executive power is vested in a Governor-General nominated by the Crown, but the real executive power is in the hands of seven Ministers, who, like those in Great Britain, must be members of the Parliament and are responsible to it. The Governor-General has the veto power, but this is a mere formality, like that of the veto power of the King of Great Britain, since no measure will be presented to him for his signature except those which have been introduced and carried by the Ministry. After various efforts to form a confederation the present one was adopted July 21, 1900, and Jan. 1, 1901, was formally proclaimed



STREET SCENE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

in the Capitals of the several States. Their area by square miles and population in December, 1905, are:

New South Wales	310,367	1,456,950
Victoria	87,884	1,218,571
Queensland	668,497	528,048
South Australia	902,690	374,293
Western Australia	975,329	254,705
Tasmania	26,215	181,105
Total	2,972,573	4,052,873

Melbourne.

The Australians are imitating us still farther in building a National Capital out of hand in an unsettled country. They expect to improve upon us, taking advantage of our plan of Washington and putting onto this modern improvement. Until this new Capital is ready for occupation the Capital will remain at the great city of Melbourne, which is the principal trading town in the southern hemisphere. It is the Capital of the State of Victoria, and is situated on the Yarra River, nine miles from the bay. Melbourne is an essentially modern city. Even younger than Chicago, it has grown on much the same lines.

The first settlement there was in 1835, when it was named for Lord Melbourne, then Prime Minister of Great Britain. It grew moderately, and its first step in its rise to greatness came in 1841, when it was made the seat of a Bishop. Next, it became the political center of the Colony of Victoria. The discovery of gold in Victoria in 1851 brought a tremendous rush, and Melbourne grew like a weed in wet weather. Gold mining was promptly followed by more profitable and substantial lines of business in cattle raising and wool growing. Melbourne was built up on a modern plan, with straight, wide, regular streets, well paved, with electric tramways, gas, electric lighting and an abundance of fresh water. Including its immediate suburbs the city has now a population of over one-half million. Its chief industrial establishments are flour mills, tallow works, tanneries, woolen cloth factories, breweries and foundries. Among the public buildings and institutions is a fine university



MAN OF QUEENSLAND.

housed in magnificent buildings surrounded by extensive grounds. The Parliament House, erected in 1855-61, cost \$5,000,000. The Town Hall is a superb building, and, in fact, all of the buildings are unusually fine, costly and show high architectural skill. There are a Picture Gallery, Museum of Sculpture, Custom House, Barracks, several Theaters and fine botanical and zoological gardens. The suburbs, including the metropolis area, extend for over 10 miles along the shores of the spacious and beautiful Bay of Port Phillip, which is 25 miles long by 25 broad. The chief exports are gold, silver, wool, hides, cattle and sheep, and six-sevenths of all the products exported from the Commonwealth. The Australian State of Victoria comes to Melbourne.

The oldest city in Australia, and one which is a competitor with Melbourne for the first place is Sydney, the Capital of New South Wales. The town was started in 1788, when the first convicts were sent to the country, and after the abolition of convict transport Sydney's town grew very rapidly. It is situated on a bay about eight miles from the sea, and is built around a fine harbor, where the largest vessels can safely anchor. The shores of the bay are bold and rocky, presenting a succession of picturesque and beautiful landscapes. The bay is well fortified, and forms the chief naval station for the British in the southern hemisphere. There is a fine dry dock, which can accommodate the largest vessels in the navy. In the older part of the city the streets are narrow and irregular, but outside of this they are wide, straight and very well kept. The University of Sydney stands on a commanding height, and is something to delight the eye. The cathedral of St. Andrew is another splendid building, and the residence of the Governor, the Museum, the National Art Gallery, the Exchange, the Custom House, Town Hall, Post Office and other public buildings are all highly tasteful in design and erected with a lavish use of money. There are extensive manufactures of wagons, glass, pottery, shoes, carriages, stoves, tobacco, etc. Near Sydney are coal mines of the greatest extent and richness, which makes it the chief coal emporium for the country. Beyond Sydney are im-



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mense pastoral and mineral districts of which it is the outlet, and it had a thrifty, well-employed population of 483,968 in 1901.

The Commonwealth of Australia.

The Commonwealth of Australia, consisting of the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, lies in the South Pacific Ocean, at the very antipodes of the civilized world. It covers an area of 3,000,000 square miles, and is as large as Europe or America, and 25 times as large as the British Isles. All these Colonies, except Tasmania, are embraced in the mainland, the latter being a compact little island by itself, lying to the south of and separated from Victoria by Bass's Straits.

It seems strange that this immense continent should have remained practically undiscovered as it was until 1788, when the English founded their colony in New South Wales, since the long chain of islands of the Malay Archipelago would have made it easy for even rather inexperienced seamen to creep from island to island until they reached the continent that spreads out below it. During the years while Portugal and Spain were making their discoveries nothing was known of Australia, the great southern continent was suspected, and both Spaniards and Portuguese were on the lookout for it, as well as the enterprising Dutch, who had then entered the arena of exploration and had proved themselves most industrious landgrabbers. It is difficult to say who were its first discoverers, but it is certain that its west coast was first known to the Dutch, and they gave the continent its original name of "New Holland."

The Buccaneers.

It was a common occurrence, during the 17th century, for impetuous young Englishmen, possessed of a daring, adventurous spirit, to join seamen of different Nations in harrying and plundering, if possible, the richly-laden Spanish galleons in the West Indies. These were called buccaners, and when it seemed desirable to change the local-

ity of their activities they betook themselves to the East Indies to pay the same delicate attention to the Dutch. Among these enterprising, reckless young men was one William Dampier, who, in 1688, during the course of his adventures in these waters, found himself on the northwestern shores of Australia, and he was, therefore, the first Englishman to visit the continent. Dampier's report of the waterless and sandy land of the new country, the stunted trees, the scarcity of food and the miserable condition of the natives dampened any enthusiasm England might otherwise have experienced over his discovery, and for the next 70 years she bothered herself very little about it.

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THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS.

A Sharp Admonition to the Legislative Body to "Play Ball"—
The Senate and House Not in Good Temper—More Outspoken
Opposition—A Fine Hot Air Season.

There has been a big sound again from the White House, of which Congress has to take notice. It has the indications in embryo of a nice little war between the President and Congress. But while it is all very entertaining for the moment, the oldsters are skeptical as to how long it will last. He puts his seal of disapproval upon the do-nothing Congress. He has been chiding under it, a constant for political purposes. The popular effect of his special message on the employers' liability bill and a great number of other measures has died away. For a time it seemed as though the President's Western Congressmen heard from him in numerous ways. It roused many of the voters, who were disposed to rally anew to the President and, in that particular, helped the campaign for the nomination of Secretary Taft for the Presidency.

"Since that special message," said an angry Congressman from Washington State, "our people have been unwilling to consider anybody for the nomination but the President's favorite."

Congress Intends "Some Day."

As the country has been assured again and again Congress intends to enact the Sherman anti-trust bill, the place of the measure which was declared by the Supreme Court to be unconstitutional. But the President has now begun to reiterate his demand for that legislation, and couples with it a demand for the enactment of a law to prevent the watering of stock of interstate corporations and likewise a law to amend the Sherman act to take along the lines indicated in his special message. He is now telling his Congressional callers that those three measures must be enacted at this session or there will be trouble.

Congress does not intend to enact the two last-named measures at this session of Congress, break or no break with the President. The session is far advanced, they say, to enter upon such important work as that. Even the bills have been drawn yet. To be sure Senator Dooliver, of Iowa, and Senator Knox, of Illinois, have introduced a bill of each of those measures, but unfortunately the lawyers of the Senate and the House have none too high an opinion of the legal ability of either of those gentlemen. Then the reports from every quarter of the industrial depression are discouraging. Congress does not want to do anything. His discouragement industry. The corporations are having some troubles themselves, trying to get back to normal conditions.

The slow move is believed to be political. About the only matters the President is having any success with this winter pertain to the campaign for support of the President. He has been saying by any means that he will succeed. The new demand for legislation, however, is calculated to bring many people throughout the country again to support of the President. He has been saying by any means that he will succeed. The new demand for legislation, however, is calculated to bring many people throughout the country again to support of the President. He has been saying by any means that he will succeed.

The indications of the President's purpose to create on several days ago. The people's lobby, which was doing a rushing business in Washington last winter, has been quite quiet. The President's lobby, which was doing a rushing business in Washington last winter, has been quite quiet. The President's lobby, which was doing a rushing business in Washington last winter, has been quite quiet.

Speaker Cannon.

Speaker Cannon has gradually been gaining more and more out of joint with the President. He has been putting the yoke for several years, swearing like a pirate in his little mahogany private room at the Capitol, but he has been putting the yoke for several years, swearing like a pirate in his little mahogany private room at the Capitol, but he has been putting the yoke for several years, swearing like a pirate in his little mahogany private room at the Capitol.

When Congress assembled, and even before that, the Speaker had put his foot down pretty hard. He gave out interviews before he reached Washington that probably it would be preferable to have no general legislation this winter, except the appropriation bill. When he arrived here he did not hurry around to see the President and told his friends that when the President wanted to see him he could send for him.

The Speaker has stood in this attitude all winter. Furthermore he has been reaching out after the President in a very clever way, by trying to show up the abuses of law in the various Departments, which are under the President's jurisdiction. It is the Speaker's opinion that the high Department officials have caught their chief's spirit and shown a great disregard of law. They have done about as they please in his regard. The Speaker's opinion that the high Department officials have caught their chief's spirit and shown a great disregard of law. They have done about as they please in his regard. The Speaker's opinion that the high Department officials have caught their chief's spirit and shown a great disregard of law. They have done about as they please in his regard.

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A thousand and one other like instances have come to "Uncle Joe's" attention in the Departments. The other day he struck by vitalizing nine House committees, whose duties are to supervise expenditures in as many executive Departments. Usually those committees do next to nothing. They are intended chiefly to furnish a nice committee room for some chairman. "Get to work," was the word the speaker passed down the line to them the other morning. Forthwith he directed that a resolution be put before the House, authorizing the necessary expenditures to put those committees in working order.

They are going to work of course and it is announced that in the course of a few months there will be a thorough investigation of the various Executive Departments and of the abuses existing therein. They are to find out whether all the salaries paid employees are justified. That is a slap at the President, who is credited with having encouraged large forces of special agents and of others, who work secretly at great expense to the Government and, it is claimed, without producing adequate results. They are also to ferret out cases of Departmental disregard of law and show it up so that the American people may have cognizance of the same, which, of course, is intended as another slap at the President.

"Get Busy."

Right on the heels of this ambitious program the President begins to tell Congressmen that they would do quite as well to "get busy" on that general legislation he desires. He would be better satisfied with that than with any official review of what he and his Departmental officers have been doing. There may be nothing more than a warlike demonstration between these two great branches of the Government and the executive and the judicial, and again there may be more serious business.

Back of it all is the President's deep-seated dislike of Congress and the deep-seated dislike of the President by Congress. Since he entered the White House the great majority of Republicans in Senate and House have never had any love for him. While many have come to agree with the principles of his Administration, they have not approved of his methods and they have resented his apparent efforts to discredit the legislative branch of the Government in popular eyes. His attitude in that regard is in direct contrast with the late President McKinley, who had served in Congress many years and always got along on most amicable terms with Senators and Representatives.

Long ago Congress would have expressed its disapproval of the President in some emphatic way, only the Republican members had not done so. They were aware the people were with him and that it would make things hot for them in their own constituencies. They did not proceed in accord with his policy, they knew the resistance to his policies would probably result in a Democratic majority in the House of Representatives.

Now they think they see signs of the President's receding popularity. For a long while the reports that came to Washington were that the people did not blame the President but Wall Street for the panic, following the ideas expressed by the President several times on that subject. But the industrial depression, political troubles have been multiplying and the latest reports are that the number of dissatisfied people, who have suffered from the depression, are beginning to blame the President. The white-hot mandarin will not want to divide the party on the eve of a presidential election, but they would be ready to go quite a long way in even-ting the score with the President, if only they could be certain that a good proportion of their countrymen would approve.

Prospects of a Fine Quarrel.

There certainly are signs that a merry quarrel will be in progress before Congress adjourns. Those who know from long observation how well disciplined the Republicans are, hesitate to predict as much. But it has already gone beyond the stage of cloakroom denunciation and there has been some formal action. A feeling has been expressed that Senate and House are growing more and more in the main want to do the right thing and that they have a right to become impatient at the President's inactivity. The President's advantage. Senators and Representatives are heartily weary of the President's domination, whether or not he has been right in his demands. Mr. Roosevelt has now one year more to serve. At the peak end of any Administration Congress is in the habit of becoming less and less attentive to the White House. That has something to do with the present strained situation. On the other hand, the President, after having been accustomed for almost ten years to dominate affairs, is restless at the apparent slights. He feels like trying it on occasionally to ascertain whether he can make recalcitrant Congressmen come to terms. He makes the unusual statement for him recently that he did not want to send in a certain special message because he was aware Congress would probably ignore it or not attend to it.

Meanwhile Congress is doing a lot of hard work, although it is not confined to the President's pet projects. The numerous propositions to which the appropriation bills have given rise are a great amount of work in preparation and in consideration. Both legislative bodies are applying themselves to that task to the best of their powers.

A Season of Hot Air.

A great freightage of "hot air" has nevertheless been carried upon the backs of supply bills. Every time a measure of that kind shows its black headlines on the reading clerk's desk, the orators scramble for a place. It is as much fun as a snowballing match early in the season when the gentle flakes have descended upon the mother earth.

In some respects Congressmen are very like boys. They vie for the very



Will It Never be Quiet?

enjoyment of it. One orator gets up and makes a high sounding speech. That is sufficient to start the phrase makers. There are several master builders in both parties as represented in the House. The appearance of the appropriation bills, which since time immemorial have been considered for a season under "general debate," is the signal for these craftsmen. They have been collecting ideas for some months, clipping out paragraphs that caught their oratorical fancies, purloining anecdotes from joke books and funny papers, and running sentences and paragraphs over in their minds. Of such materials the impromptu speeches shot off nowadays in the House of Representatives are made. The heart of voters has been reached merrily on for several weeks, and apparently the end is not yet. Every one of the old and tried orators, Republicans and Democrats, have been trotted out. It has been a war of general national debating contest. First one takes the platform, then another and then another and so on. It is not an affair of a single evening but a sort of continuous vaudeville performance, with intervals when Congress gives serious attention to legislation. The tyros and novices get no consideration. Time is allotted them, but as soon as they are on their feet the House bursts into conversation so loud as to engulf remarks or it goes down stairs to luncheon or likes away to the new office building and forgets that there is any national debating match in progress.

But if any of the old men who won their spurs years ago and are the scars of many victorious oratorical conflicts is billed for a performance, how the galleries fill and how the Congressmen flock to their semi-circular mahogany seats. They clap their hands with delight, quite like children one might say. Sentiment rises high. The orator is spurred on and, oh, my, how he goes.

The Best Debates of a Decade.

This year's political debating in the House has been the best of a decade. It seemed to come to a climax the other day when Representative John Dalzell, of Pittsburg, made a speech in defense and praise of the Republican party. The Democratic orators had been exceedingly jaunty. They had been bragging a little more than anybody else. They had flung their taunts across the House. Under all the circumstances, they had been making it uncomfortable for the Republican brethren. Of course, they took the negative side of the question, but the Republicans had not done how they had not kept up the universal prosperity, how they had not kept the country this winter without soup houses in numerous cities, how they had not supported their President as they should have done and so on.

Mr. Dalzell is not generally an attractive speaker, although he is a very profound one. Like many another member in public life he has improved with age and service. He is a little man with a piping voice, but when he got warmed up he was fully in action, he did not make the Democracy flinch. As his Republican colleagues cheered him on, he took the positive side of the situation, and told the Republicans that they had done the period under debate has been the last 11 years of Republican Administration. He mentioned all the Republican big wins of that period, just as partisan orators do upon the stump, and the House rang with applause, just as audiences out in the backwoods cheer.

Meanwhile the Democrats on the opposite side were silent as a church. In their midst sat their leading orators, taking notes, observing every plaud and gesture. They are now busy making more phrases and gathering more material. The great National Debating Society has not concluded yet. There is a lot of red-hot work ahead. There will be attack and resistance on both sides.

The debating this year has been more or less instructive, and, above all, it has been very interesting. The old campaign managers say that voters do not read political speeches any more. They claim that the circulation of speeches, such as the House has been making, does not win votes any longer. Perhaps if the speeches could be circulated during the winter months, when there is time for reading, they might stiffen up a few backbones and make a few converts. Every Congressman who makes a star speech is likely to circulate it among his constituents, but long before the copies get into the mails in pamphlet form the newspapers have picked the meat of it and are circulating it. The speech has become an old story.

THE TAFT BOOM.

Things Are A-Doing Everywhere.

Activity in Washington and the States.

These are boom times for the Taft Presidential boom. For the hour it seems to be the only Presidential boom that is working. The Taft boom is a worship of visible results. It is a man who has the goods, it is taking its hat off just at present to the Taft boom. Not that Taft has gained a tremendous number of votes in the recent days. He has not. But the past week has been one of conventions in territory that was conceded to be his, and the Taft boom is likely to go higher. Ohio is ringing in this week, which will assure the Secretary the prestige of the delegates from his own State, or at least of a good portion of them. Senator Foraker seems to have gotten two of the District delegates, so that the Secretary cannot have a solid home delegation. The Taft boom is likely to quarrelling over State offices, and soon after the State Convention adjourns the Foraker people will press for some more Congressional Conventions in the hope that they can take a few more delegates.

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In Missouri the Secretary of War did a little better than was expected. "Uncle Joe" Cannon's friends did not make good their claims to a bunch of delegates from that State. That made the Taft workers buoyant. But a number of conventions are scheduled for the next 10 days in the strong Taft and strong pro-Roosevelt country—in Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Whether the new State of Oklahoma will fall in line for the Taft selection is not apparent.

Taft Headquarters in Washington.

But how the wheels are whirling around Taft headquarters in this city! Just for a few days the Secretary is away again on the circuit—on a stumping tour into Brooklyn and New England. It looks very much as the New England were the key to the situation for the Secretary. If he could only get the bulk of the delegates from those six States, with a total of 82 votes, it would be a smashing victory, and would come pretty close to assuring his nomination. But the New Englanders are very independent, and they do not like the idea of dictation from President Roosevelt regarding his successor. Taft is well liked in that section, which he has frequently visited. The fact that his mother was a Boston woman and that he has lived many years of his life in Massachusetts creates some friendly sentiment to him. Since his campaign for the nomination opened in earnest he has made about a dozen speeches in Massachusetts and also as many more in other States of that section. There is more speeches than he has made in the same time in any other two States. Meanwhile he and his workers have been exhausting their ingenuity in schemes for getting New England dele-

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